

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

SEPTEMBER 21, 2004

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

According to a recent article in the Los Angeles Daily Journal, a 4-year-old foster child was rejected for a lung transplant by Children's Hospital because hospital officials did not believe foster care was stable enough to provide crucial post-operative care. Although the foster child was residing in the home of a medically trained foster parent, this was not sufficient for the hospital's transplant program. The hospital subsequently agreed to evaluate the child as a transplant candidate, but only after the child was returned home to the biological parent. Unfortunately, the child died before the transplant evaluation was completed. It is imperative that expedited treatment is the policy for all medically fragile children, including foster youth.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Children and Family Services to:

1. Develop protocols with hospitals specifically relating to transplant cases or the provision of other extraordinary medical care; and
2. Ensure the Department has an adequate number of foster homes that are qualified to care for children in need of transplants or other extraordinary medical care.

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